

Utah Division of Indian Affairs

Tribal Leaders Newsletter Report

June 9, 2006



The primary service provided by UDIA is **Information and Referral**.

This includes:

- General information about Utah's American Indians and tribes
- Presentations to various sectors: public, private, schools
- Publication and distribution of information
- Speaker's Bureau
- Web site: www.indian.utah.gov

Status of the Division of Indian Affairs:

Palmer DePaulis has been selected as the new Executive Director for the Department of Community and Culture (DCC). I have had the opportunity to meet with Mr. DePaulis, and I am very impressed with him. He has a lot of experience and I look forward to working with him. It appears that our division will remain under DCC.

Palmer DePaulis served as head of the State Tax Commission under Governor Michael Leavitt and was mayor of Salt Lake City from 1985 to 1992.



Press Release for American Indian Peace March - April 21st at 11:00 A.M.

As a result of President Bush's actions to eliminate funding for American Indian health programs, local American Indian leaders organized a peace march to call attention to these injustices and violations of treaty agreements between the U.S. Government and American Indian tribes. Over 500 American Indians from throughout the Intermountain region answered the call and participated in the Peace March that took place April 21, 2006. The march began at 11:00 a.m. at the Indian Walk-In Center. The march proceeded North on State Street from 1300 South to the Federal Building located on 100 South. Eleanor Iron Lightning was the march organizer.

Open House - Northwestern Band of Shoshone Tribal Housing Authority:

On April 28, 2006, the Northwestern Band of Shoshone Tribal Housing Authority celebrated the Grand Opening of 10 new housing units at their Odgen housing site. These new homes are impressive and the Division encourages other tribal leaders to visit this new site.

HB 060 Controlled Substance:

The ceremonial signing of the bill took place May 2, 2006.



Those present included: Rep. Curt Oda; Andrew Tso, Secretary, Navajo Nation; Ivan Wongan, Chairman, Northwestern Band of Shoshone; Rupert Steele, Chairman, Confederate Tribes of Goshute Reservations; Johnny Blackhorse, Chairperson, Salt Lake NAC Chapter; Carma Nez, Secretary, Salt Lake NAC Chapter.



Health:

Tribal Consultation Policy:

Melissa Zito, Indian Health Liaison for the State of Utah's Department of Health, has been working with the American Indian Health Advisory Board to update the '*Tribal Consultation Policy*.' I support this policy and as a result of this successful effort and believe a statewide consultation policy should be considered to apply to all state programs and services. When this statewide consultation policy was brought up at the last NALLC meeting, Chairperson Beverly Evans said she thought it should be brought up after the 2006 Legislative Session, perhaps for the General Session in 2007.

Elevation of Indian Health Liaison Position:

Melissa's position needs to be solidified. I encourage a recommendation that her position serve directly under the director. ***We have a 'resolution' for your consideration.***

Governor's Visit to Paiute Reservation - May 3, 2006:

Governor Huntsman's visit to Cedar City was an historic occasion. I believe it was a strong testimony of his dedication as he sat through two hours of meetings with the various bandleaders of the five Paiute Bands.

UDIA PowerPoint Presentations:

UDIA has developed three PowerPoint presentations designed to educate people about American Indians in three general areas: tribal government, education, and business.

Native American Remains Review Committee (NARRC) - (Deliverable):

No meetings were held during this period as we are awaiting formal claims to be filed. The tribes have also requested assistance in filing claims that meet the requirements of the law. UDIA has been consulting with various groups to determine the best approach to provide training for tribal historic preservation officers.

Indian Housing Advisory Council - (Deliverable):

Division staff member, Rebecca Nelson, accompanied Mike Johnson, State Weatherization Program and Jane Shock, American Express Board Member, to Iapah. The purpose of their visit was to assess weatherization and other housing needs. Another trip is planned to meet with the entire Goshute Housing Authority on June 14. Members of the UAIHAB, including Richard Walker, Housing Director; Mike Glenn, Olene Walker Housing board and Elena Bensor, Division of Anti-discrimination and Fair Housing, will be included. They are planning to visit the other tribal housing councils in the following months.



Education – Tribal Education Directors (TEDS) meeting:

UDIA called a meeting of Tribal Education Directors on Monday, April 3, 2006. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss: 1) Tribal Education Directors National Assembly, 2) Education issues such as the achievement gap in Utah schools and, 3) implementation of the "Roots & Shoots" Program in tribal communities. This meeting was successful. There will be a follow-up meeting in the near future. Also, I presented the aforementioned Education PowerPoint to the Utah State Office of Education Indian Education Advisory Committee on Monday, May 22, 2006. The Indian educators appreciated the presentation and we intend to work together to improve education for Utah's American Indian youth. I have been invited to give the same presentation to the Utah Education Association Conference in October.

World Peace and Prayer Day/Honoring Sacred Sites Day:

Governor Huntsman has joined South Dakota Governor Downs, by signing a Proclamation designating June 21st as World Peace and Prayer Day/Honoring Sacred Sites Day in the State of Utah. Eleanor Iron Lightning submitted the request to Governor Huntsman as requested by Arvol Looking Horse, 19th Generation Keeper of the Tradition of the Sacred White Buffalo Calf Pipe, who made the request when he visited Utah in February. The "World Peace and Prayer Day/Honoring Sacred Sites Day" seeks to educate following generations to become peacemakers and caretakers of the land, uphold the importance of caring for Sacred Sites, keep the channels of communication between all nations open and find sustainable solution to environmental abuse.

We Shall Remain:

The Public Broadcasting Service (PBS) developed a five part television documentary series entitled, "We Shall Remain." The scheduled release of broadcast series is scheduled for 2008. PBS has selected Salt Lake City to be the marketing center for this telecast in cooperation with the University of Utah's KUED, Channel Seven. As a result of this distinction, KUED will be developing a television documentary about Utah's five Indian nations. Mr. Ken Verdoia will address this project with you later. This is a wonderful opportunity for Utah Tribes to tell their story to a large television audience.

Special Note:

I welcomed my first grandchild, Jay Ryder Cuch, into the world on Sunday, May 28, 2006. I am now officially a Grandpa.

